

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-02 EB-11 FAA-00 DOTE-00 IO-14

SCS-03 SCA-01 M-02 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 WRD-03 DRC-01 /133 W

----- 043366

R 170705Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8731

UNCLAS SAIGON 12060

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINS, EAIR, VS

SUBJECT: CRASH AND ATTEMPTED HIJACKING OF AIR VIETNAM 727 AIRCRAFT

REF: SAIGON 11976 AND 11977

THIS AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT IS KEYED TO 10 FAM 521.6 AS  
FOLLOWS:

A. BOEING 727-100, VIETNAMESE REGISTRATION XVNJC

B. AIR VIETNAM, OWNER AND OPERATOR

C. SEPTEMBER 15 AT ABOUT 1137 HOURS LOCAL TIME

D. DEPARTED DANANG AS FLIGHT # VN 706 AT 1017 HOURS ON  
ROUTE TO SAIGON

E. AIRCRAFT CRASHED AT PHAN RANG MILITARY AIRPORT  
(11 DEGREE 38' N LATITUDE, 108 DEGREE 57' E LONGITUDE)

F. 8 CREW MEMBERS AND 62 PASSENGERS (INCLUDING ONE

AMERICAN) DIED IN CRASH.

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DCA REPORTED THAT SHORTLY

G. AFTER LEAVING DANANG AIRCRAFT WAS ORDERED BY HIJACKER DRESSED IN ARMY UNIFORM WITH RANK OF MAJOR TO PROCEED TO HANOI. HE THREATENED TO BLOW UP AIRCRAFT WITH TWO HAND GRENADES. PILOT REFUSED TO FLY NORTH AND INSTEAD ATTEMPTED TO LAND AT PHAN RANG AIRPORT WHEN HIJACKER EVIDENTLY DETONATED GRENADES. AIRCRAFT EXPLODED UPON TOUCHDOWN AT PHAN RANG AIRPORT AND IS A TOTAL LOSS.

H. DCA AND AIR VIETNAM ARE CONDUCTING ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION. ACTING DCA MENTIONED THAT ASSISTANCE OF NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD MAY BE ASKED FOR READING FLIGHT RECORDER WHICH WAS RECOVERED. IF FORMAL REQUEST IS RECEIVED, DEPARTMENT WILL BE NOTIFIED.

I. OFFICIAL ACCIDENT REPORT WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY WHEN INVESTIGATION COMPLETED.  
LEHMANN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, CASUALTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SAIGON12060  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740260-0734  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740938/aaaabgmo.tel  
**Line Count:** 79  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SAIGON 11976 AND 11977  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 JUL 2002 by maustmc>; APPROVED <31 JAN 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CRASH AND ATTEMPTED HIJACKING OF AIR VIETNAM 727 AIRCRAFT  
**TAGS:** PINS, EAIR, VS, AIR VIETNAM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005